



# NEWS RELEASE

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## ***Edwardsville Business Receives USDA Energy Program Funding***

### ***Grant Assistance Provided Under USDA Rural Development Program***

**Edwardsville, KS** – City of Edwardsville officials and staff representing U.S. Senator Pat Roberts joined USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks today in presenting a ceremonial grant funding check of \$20,537 to Lipp Properties of Edwardsville to assist the business to establish a renewable energy system. Funding for the new renewable system is being provided under USDA's *'Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Program'*.

USDA Rural Development State Director Banks, in comments at the check presentation ceremony, remarked, "USDA Rural Development's *'Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Program'* can provide financial assistance to businesses and agricultural producers to establish a new renewable energy system or improve the efficiency of a present energy system. It is vital that our Nation expand renewable energy projects and improve the efficiency of current systems as all of us strive to make the United States more energy independent. USDA Rural Development is playing an active role in helping rural America meet this important national security and economic development goal."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Terry Lipp, owner of Lipp Properties stated, "USDA Rural Development has a great program to help us establish our two wind turbines. The USDA staff were also very helpful in assisting us with the application process." Lipp Properties will install two 5-kW wind turbines, with an estimated annual energy output of 26,500 Kwh.

During Fiscal Year 2006, USDA Rural Development announced financial assistance to eight rural businesses totaling over \$261,000 to assist in improving energy efficiency or establishing a renewable energy system. USDA Rural Development's *'Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Program'* was established under the 2002 Farm Bill to encourage energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, along with supporting economic development in rural America.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhancing the quality of life of rural Americans. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, energy programs, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America. For additional information regarding USDA Rural Development's energy programs, or its other community and economic development programs, log onto the Agency's Kansas website at: [www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks) or call the Agency's state office at 785-271-2700.

**USDA Rural Development – *Committed to the Future of Rural Communities.***

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